

Marshall University

Marshall Digital Scholar

[Guides to Manuscript Collections](#)

[Library Special Collections](#)

1984

0391: Eli Camden Henderson Papers, 1906-1956

Marshall University Special Collections

Follow this and additional works at: https://mds.marshall.edu/sc_finding_aids



Part of the [Appalachian Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), [Sports Management Commons](#), and the [Sports Studies Commons](#)

Register
of the
Eli Camden Henderson Papers

Manuscript Collection (Ms 141)

Special Collections Department
James E. Morrow Library
Marshall University
Huntington, West Virginia
1997

James E. Morrow Library
Marshall University

ELI CAMDEN HENDERSON PAPERS, 1906-1983

Accession Number: 391
Processed By: Michael Fagan and Shannon Hughes
Guide prepared by: Cora P. Teel
Date Completed: April 1997
Location: Special Collections Department

This collection was the gift of Dr. Sam Clagg and was received on various dates from 1984 until 1989.

Linear feet of shelf space: 9

Literary rights: Not assigned to Marshall University

CONTENTS

Content and Scope of the Collection	page 1
Biography	2
Inventory of the Collection	
Series I. Cam Henderson Papers	3-4
Series II. Roxie Bell Henderson Papers	4
Series III. Athletic Materials	5-7
Series IV. Other Personal and Printed Materials	7-9
Series V. Sam Clagg Materials	9-11

Explanatory Note:

"Bx" refers to the box in which papers are filed.

"Fd" refers to folder.

CONTENT AND SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION

The Cam Henderson papers consist primarily of papers related to his career as a football and basketball coach at Muskingum, Davis and Elkins and Marshall Colleges. A significant part of the collection relates to his wife Roxie Bell Henderson and includes many personal and family items as well as material related to her career as a public school teacher. Included also is material gathered by Dr. Sam Clagg for his biography of Henderson and afterward.

Printed materials comprise most of the collection: yearbooks, newspaper clippings, textbooks, and books related to coaching basketball and football. The bulk of the correspondence is that of Roxie Bell Henderson. There are also numerous photographs of the Bell and Henderson families.

The collection was the gift to Dr. Clagg from Henderson's daughter, Camille Henderson Waldeck., and was originally organized by Dr. Clagg in preparation for writing *The Cam Henderson Story: His Life and Times* (Parsons, W. Va.: McClain Printing Company, 1981).

ELI CAMDEN HENDERSON, 1890 - 1956

Eli Camden 'Cam' Henderson was born in Joetown, Marion County, West Virginia on February 5, 1890, the son of John and Kate Strosnider Henderson. He attended public schools in Marion County, West Virginia Wesleyan College Academy, Waynesburg College (Pennsylvania), and graduated from Glenville State Normal School (West Virginia) in 1911. In 1912, he married Susan Roxie Bell of Glenville and the young couple began teaching in Harrison County, West Virginia schools. In 1916, the Hendersons enrolled at Salem College, where Cam graduated in 1917. Roxie Henderson continued a career as a public school teacher. Their only child, daughter Camille, was born in 1928.

After coaching positions at Shinnston High School, Muskingum College and Davis and Elkins College, Henderson became athletic director and head basketball, football and baseball coach at Marshall College, now Marshall University, in 1935 and remained at Marshall until his retirement in 1955. He eventually relinquished responsibilities for the athletic department and football and baseball coaching to concentrate on basketball. The overall success of Henderson-coached teams is unparalleled in school history; he is the only coach to win two championships in two different sports: the Buckeye Conference football championship in 1937, and the National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball (NAIB) tournament in 1947.

Shortly after his retirement in 1955, Henderson succumbed to heart disease complicated by diabetes

Henderson is credited with inventing the zone defense, which was a key element in Marshall basketball strategy for years after his retirement. He received recognition for his achievements in coaching through selection as Coach of the Year by the West Virginia Sportswriters Association (1947) and his election to the NAIB Hall of Fame (1952), West Virginia Sports Hall of Fame (1955), and the College Basketball Hall of Fame (1974).

In 1981, Henderson was recognized on the Marshall University campus with the dedication of the Henderson Center, a multipurpose athletic facility and home court of the Marshall University basketball team.¹

¹Information taken from Sam Clagg, *The Cam Henderson Story: His Life and Times* (Parsons, W. Va.: McClain Printing Co., 1981).

ELI CAMDEN HENDERSON PAPERS, 1906-1983

SERIES I. Cam Henderson Papers

Bx 1	Cam Henderson	34 Fds
Fd 1	Letters sent, 1935; undated	2 items
Fd 2	Letters to Cam Henderson and others, 1913-1939	3 items
Fd 3	Letters received, 1922-1970	34 items
Fd 4	Farley Bell papers, 1925-1951	24 items
Fd 5	Farley Bell papers, 1913-1945	49 items
Fd 6	Waldeck papers, 1918-1966	10 items
Fd 7	Camille Henderson papers, 1935-1981	34 items
Fd 8	Camille Henderson papers, 1956-1979	33 items
Fd 9	Kate Carrico Dakon papers, 1977-1981	9 items
Fd 10	Bessie Bell newspaper clippings, 1937-1949	5 items
Fd 11	James E. Allen family newspaper clippings, 1955-1956	2 items
Fd 12	Cam's estate, 1956	6 items
Fd 13	Finances and taxes, 1933-1955	9 items
Fd 14	New house (Fifth Avenue), 1938-[1981]	29 items
Fd 15	Cam accepting Marshall job, 1935	39 items
Fd 16	Miscellaneous programs, clippings, etc., 1948-1967	11 items
Fd 17	Marshall contracts, 1945-1949	5 items
Fd 18	Big Green Club, 1947-1952	79 items
Fd 19	Big Green Club, 1952-1959	71 items
Fd 20	Newspaper clipping, 1936	1 item
Fd 21	Henderson Day, June 12, 1954	33 items
Fd 22	Appreciation document, May 13, 1955	1 item
Fd 23	Newspaper clippings, programs, 1937-1979	23 items
Fd 24	Graduation from Salem, 1917	1 item
Fd 25	Muskingum College, 1910-1975	27 items
Fd 26	Muskingum College bulletin, 1933	4 items
Fd 27	Glenville College newspaper clippings, 1953-1978	3 items
Fd 28	Bristol days, 1910-1981	48 items
Fd 29	Charleston auto affair, 1949-1953	10 items
Fd 30	Auto insurance, 1955	3 items
Fd 31	Medical papers, 1954-1956	22 items
Fd 32	Cam Henderson obituaries, 1956	55 items
Fd 33	Indian controversy, 1949-1956	22 items
Fd 34	Membership cards; other ephemera	10 items

SERIES II. Roxie Bell Henderson Papers

Bx 2 Roxie Bell Henderson	26 Fds
Fd 1 Letters received, 1949-1956	9 items
Fd 2 Letters received, 1964-1969	31 items
Fd 3 Letters received, 1971	13 items
Fd 4 Letters received, 1972	4 items
Fd 5 Letters received, 1973	36 items
Fd 6 Enclosures in letters, 1973	10 items
Fd 7 Letter received, 1974	1 item
Fd 8 Invitations, announcements, etc., 1935-1973; undated	9 items
Fd 9 Bank statements, 1956-973	35 items
Fd 10 Deposit slips, 1961-1962	7 items
Fd 11 Check stubs, 1956-1957	10 items
Fd 12 Check stubs, 1958-1959	13 items
Fd 13 Check stubs, 1960-1962	11 items
Fd 14 Check stubs, 1964-1969	6 items
Fd 15 Financial, 1934-1973	14 items
Fd 16 Lists	3 items
Fd 17 Ledgers, 1928-1940	14 items
Fd 18 Diaries, notes, 1971-1975	4 items
Fd 19 Diploma, Muskingum College, 1922	1 item
Fd 20 Photographs, 1972 : Roxie and Camille Henderson	2 items
Fd 21 Sheet music	9 items
Fd 22 Printed material	22 items
Fd 23 Newspaper clippings	3 items
Fd 24 Newspaper clippings	12 items
Fd 25 Newspaper clippings	7 items
Fd 26 Newspaper clippings	4 items
Note: additional Roxie Bell Henderson materials at end of finding aid.	
Bx 3 Cam Henderson Illness and Death	14 Fds
Fd 1 Diary of Cam's illness, 1956	1 item
Fd 2 Receipts, 1955-1956	24 items
Fd 3 Committee for Henderson legal papers, 1956	3 items
Fds 4-9 Get well and sympathy cards, 1956	109 items (total)
Fds 10-11 Funeral floral enclosures, 1956	65 items (total)
Fd 12 Committee for Henderson bank records, 1955-56	44 items
Fd 13 Bank records, June 1955-July 1956	12 items
Fd 14 Funeral register and cards	6 items

SERIES III. Athletic Materials

Bx 4	Basketball	24 Fds
Fd 1	Correspondence, 1946-1952; undated	5 items
Fd 2	Buckeye Championship keepsake order, 1938	6 items
Fd 3	Newspaper clippings, 1944	4 items
Fd 4	Newspaper clippings, 1945	5 items
Fd 5	NAIB publicity, 1947	16 items
Fd 6	Newspaper clippings, Kansas City, 1947	3 items
Fd 7	Newspaper clippings, 1947-1973	19 items
Fd 8	Newspaper clippings, 1950-51	2 items
Fd 9	Newspaper clippings, 1952	9 items
Fd 10	Newspaper clippings, 1953	6 items
Fd 11	Newspaper clippings, 1954	16 items
Fd 12	Newspaper clippings, 1955	18 items
Fd 13	Newspaper clippings, 1956	1 item
Fd 14	Basketball programs, 1945-1955	9 items
Fd 15	Davis and Elkins College basketball: printed items	9 items
Fd 16	<i>Indiana Basketball</i> / by Everett Dean (1932)	1 item
Fd 17	<i>Paul 'Tony' Hinkle's Offense</i> (1936)	1 item
Fd 18	<i>Basketball by Henderson</i>	1 item
Fd 19	Notations, programs and other miscellany	15 items
Fd 20	Basketball notes	2 items
Fd 21	<i>Basketball Hints</i> (1936); Official playing rules, 1937-38	2 items
Fd 22	Basketball Score Book, Marshall College, 1941-1942	1 item
Fd 23	Play diagrams; typescript	7 items
Fd 24	Poster, undated	1 item
Bx 5	Football	35 Fds
Fd 1	Football rules, fundamentals	3 items
Fd 2	Coaching clinics; play diagrams	45 items
Fd 3	Davis & Elkins Athletic Association football operating statement, 1934	1 item
Fd 4	Programs; Davis & Elkins reunions; other articles	23 items
Fd 5	Scouting report form (player)	1 item
Fd 6	Scouting report, Xavier, 1940	6 items
Fd 7	Scouting reports, Miami, 1935, 1936, 1939	18 items
Fd 8	Scouting report, Scranton, 1940	4 items
Fd 9	Scouting report, V.P.I., 1940	3 items

Bx 5, continued

Fd 10	Scouting report, Western Kentucky, 1941	2 items
Fd 11	Scouting report, Dayton, 1939	7 items
Fd 12	<i>Football Notes</i> by Fielding Yost (1929)	2 items
Fd 13	Mimeographed and typescript notations	2 items
Fd 14	"Football by Cam;" other notations	10 items
Fd 15	<i>Principals of Football</i> by John Heisman (1921)	1 item
Fd 16	Drills	1 item
Fd 17	<i>Modern Foot-ball for Players and Coaches</i> by M. B. Banks (1919)	1 item
Fd 18	Play diagrams and fundamentals; Ohio Wesleyan roster; equipment measurements for Marshall players, ca. 1939	30 items
Fd 19	Cam's coaching school; AFCA brochures; schedules and previews	9 items
Fd 20	Quiz and play diagrams	3 items
Fd 21	Scouting report, Toledo, 1939	8 items
Fd 22	Scouting report, Wake Forest, 1940	3 items
Fd 23	Scouting reports, Morris Harvey, 1939; 1940	4 items
Fd 24	Play diagrams	86 items
Fd 25	Newspaper clippings, Davis & Elkins College	21 items
Fd 26	Newspaper clippings, Buckeye Conference	13 items
Fd 27	Reunion, 1939-1941 Marshall College football team roster	19 items
Fd 28	Newspaper clippings, Cam Henderson, 1935; 1942	2 items
Fd 29	Newspaper clippings, football 1935	1 item
Fd 30	Newspaper clippings, football 1937	7 items
Fd 31	Newspaper clippings, football 1939	1 item
Fd 32	Newspaper clippings, football 1940	2 items
Fd 33	Newspaper clippings, football 1941	15 items
Fd 34	Newspaper clippings, Milton High School football; others	10 items
Fd 35	Holograph music score, 'Standin' in the need o'cheer'	1 item

Bx 6 Other Sports; Additional Materials 21 Folders

Fd 1	Davis and Elkins College bonds, 1943	6 items
Fd 2	Memorandum books, football tactics, etc.	3 items
Fd 3	Farley Bell notebooks, Cam's coaching school; other subjects	8 items
Fd 4	Memorandum book, speeches, scouting notes, etc.	1 item
Fd 5	Baseball notebooks	3 items
Fd 6	Baseball publications	3 items
Fd 7	<i>How to Box</i> by Jack Dempsey (1936)	1 item
Fd 8	Track and field instruction	2 items
Fd 9	'Modern trends in physical education,' typescript, undated	1 item
Fd 10	Davis and Elkins College ephemera, 1925-1956; undated	6 items

Bx 6, continued

Fd 11 Printed material	5 items
Fd 12 High school items, 1935-1937; undated	4 items
Fd 13 Newspaper clippings, Davis and Elkins, 1935-1973	17 items
Fd 14 Newspaper clippings, Marshall, 1938-1975	55 items
Fd 15 Newspaper clippings, Marshall, 1937-1973	24 items
Fd 16 Newspaper clippings, Marshall, 1936	4 items
Fd 17 Newspaper clippings, Marshall, 1938	10 items
Fd 18 Newspaper clippings, Marshall, 1946	11 items
Fd 19 Newspaper clippings, Marshall, 1947	23 items
Fd 20 Newspaper clippings, Marshall, 1948-1949	16 items
Fd 21 Newspaper clippings, Marshall, 1949	24 items
Fd 22 West Virginia Athletic Conference, 1933 - 1937	

SERIES IV. Other Personal and Printed Materials

Bx 7 Photographs 39 Fds; 2 albums

Fd 1 Early Cam Henderson	22 items
Fd 2 Early Cam Henderson	20 items
Fd 3 Cam Henderson, alone	36 items
Fd 4 Henderson with teams	35 items
Fd 5 Henderson with others (not team photos)	13 items
Fd 6 Henderson at public events	9 items
Fd 7 Henderson players and coaches (individual shots)	29 items
Fd 8 Henderson players and coaches (individual shots)	20 items
Fd 9 Henderson players and coaches (groups)	11 items
Fd 10 Henderson players, unidentified	9 items
Fd 11 Baseball teams and players	9 items
Fd 12 Basketball team photographs	8 items
Fd 13 NAIB championship team, 1947	15 items
Fd 14 Football team and player photographs	25 items
Fd 15 Football action shots	17 items
Fd 16 Track team	1 item
Fd 17 Henderson family	17 items
Fd 18 Roxie Bell Henderson	14 items
Fd 19 Camille Henderson baby book	1 item
Fd 20 Camille Henderson wedding photographs	29 items
Fd 21 Camille Henderson photo album	1 item
Fd 22 Loose photographs from Camille Henderson album	54 items
Fd 23 Henderson home, Fifth Avenue, Huntington, W. Va.	2 items

Bx 7, continued

Fd 24 Bell family	31 items
Fd 25 Farley Bell	55 items
Fd 26 Farley Bell, teams and other groups	14 items
Fd 27 Bristol High School	34 items
Fd 28 Davis and Elkins coaching school	1 item
Fd 29 Homecoming, Marshall and Ohio University, 194_	9 items
Fd 30 Memorial Field House; plaque	3 items
Fd 31 Muskingum College	2 items
Fd 32 Western trip	24 items
Fd 33 Photo album pages	7 items
Fd 34 Loose photographs from album	17 items
Fd 35 Identified people and places	57 items
Fd 36 Unidentified photographs	78 items
Fd 37 Unidentified photographs	61 items
Fd 38 Unidentified photographs	49 items
Fd 39 Unidentified tintypes	3 items
2 Albums	

Bx 8 Yearbooks and Artifacts 5 Fds; 13 books

Clay District High School *Courier*, 1916, 1917, 1920
 Davis and Elkins College *Senator*, 1925
 Glenville State Normal College *Kanawhachen*, 1911
 Muskingum College *Muscoljuan*, 1922-1924
 Salem College *Fensterscheibe*, 1917
 Shinnston High School *Courier*, 1913.
 Wellsburg High School *Hottentot*, 1925
 Weston High School *Collicola*, 1926, 1927

Fd 1 Tobacco pouch	
Fd 2 Athletic monogram, "D-E"	
Fd 3 Engraver's blocks	4 items
Fd 4 Reel-to-reel tapes	2 items
Fd 5 Proclamation: "Cam Henderson Day," Huntington, W. Va. 8 June 1954.	

Bx 9 Books 19 items

Bible. [Presentation copy, 1911].
Bible (Philadelphia, n.d.).

Bx 9, continued

- Bilik, S. E. *Athletic Training* (Champaign, Ill., 1917).
The Blue Book of College Athletics (Cleveland, Ohio, 1942).
Grange, Harold E. (Red). *Zuppke of Illinois* (Chicago, 1937).
Gullion, Blair. *100 Drills for Teaching Basketball Fundamentals* (Knoxville, Tenn., 1933, 1937).
Irving, Washington. *Selected Tales from Tales of a Traveler* (New York, 1909).
Macaulay, Thomas Babington. *Lays of Ancient Rome* (New York, 1909).
Minke, Frank G. *The Encyclopedia of Sports* (New York, 1955).
Olney, J. A Practical System of Modern Geography (New York, 1850).
Peterman, Mark A. *Secrets of Winning Basketball* (Springfield, Ill., 1935).
The Revolt of Ralph Day (Hartford, Conn., 1940).
Ruby, J. Craig. *Basketball Text Book* (n.p., n.d.).
Shakespeare, William. *As You Like It* (New York, 1910).
_____. *The Tragedy of Hamlet Prince of Denmark* (Boston, 1909).
[Stephens, Alexander H. *The War Between the States*. n.p., n.d. Title pg. missing]
The University of Michigan, Its Program, Personnel and Provisions for Physical Education (n.p., n.d.).
Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, vol. 12, 1945-46.
Woodbridge, William Channing. *A System of Universal Geography* (Hartford, Conn., 1843).

Bx 10 Other Printed Material

7 Fds

- | | | |
|------|--|----------|
| Fd 1 | Booklets and pamphlets about World War II | 13 items |
| Fd 2 | Magazine and newspaper articles about World War II | 6 items |
| Fd 3 | Books about World War II; Maine waterfowl book | 4 items |
| Fd 4 | Books about World War II | 3 items |
| Fd 5 | Newspaper clippings, pamphlets about Thomas Jefferson | 4 items |
| Fd 6 | Magazine article about Dwight D. Eisenhower | 2 items |
| Fd 7 | Booklet, <i>American Diplomacy</i> by Joseph Alsop and Robert Kintner (1940) | |

SERIES V. Sam Clagg Material

Bx 11 Material Related to Henderson Biography

28 Fds

- | | | |
|------|--|----------|
| Fd 1 | Clagg letters, 1970-1981 | 4 items |
| Fd 2 | Letters received, 1979-1982 | 10 items |
| Fd 3 | Letters from Henderson prospects, n.d. | 3 items |

Bx 11, continued

Fd 4	Letters to Henderson, 1955-1956	7 items
Fd 5	Letters to Henderson on his retirement, 1955	18 items
Fd 6	Letters to Henderson from administrators, 1936-1938	3 items
Fd 7	Copyright information on Henderson biography, 1982	3 items
Fd 8	Maps for biography, undated	7 items
Fd 9	Newspaper clippings and articles about the Henderson Center, 1977-1979	15 items
Fd 10	Henderson Center dedication printed material	9 items
Fd 11	Newspaper clippings about the opening of the Henderson Center, 1979	19 items
Fd 12	Henderson Center opening, 1981	5 items
Fd 13	Henderson Center dedication program, including Clagg remarks, 1937-1981	14 items
Fd 14	Henderson Center clock design	2 items
Fd 15	Cartoons of Cam Henderson, 1938	2 items
Fd 16	Biographical material on Henderson (secondary sources)	13 items
Fd 17	Clagg notes, note cards for book	3 items
Fd 18	Clagg notes for book	14 items
Fd 19	Book promotion materials	8 items
Fd 20	Clagg notes	9 items
Fd 21	Book content items; letters about book, 1981-1982	18 items
Fd 22	Book reviews, 1981-1982	16 items
Fd 23	Book promotion materials	2 items
Fd 24	Maps	3 items
Fd 25	Photocopies of Kessler articles on Henderson	3 items
Fd 26	<i>Travelhost</i> (May 29, 1983) [contains map by Clagg]	1 item
Fd 27	Newspaper clippings, 1915-1980	4 items
Fd 28	Photographs for Henderson biography	21 items'

Bx 12 Research Materials for Henderson Biography 20 Fds

Fd 1	"Plaque" [1922-1981]	20 items
Fd 2	"Player Tributes" [1951-1971]	7 items
Fd 3	"Plug In Material" [1954; undated]	6 items
Fd 4	"Presidential Letters" [1935-1952]	56 items
Fd 5	"Prospects" [1934-1954]	31 items
Fd 6	"Randolph, Jennings" [1935-1979]	5 items
Fd 7	"Records -- BB & FB" [1923-1954]	4 items
Fd 8	"Resignation -- End" [1955]	43 items

Bx 12, continued

Fd 9	"Resignation -- Football 8 Nov 1949" (includes letter [1981] from Pete Pederson, who succeeded Henderson as football coach in 1949)	18 items
Fd 10	"Ripley Material" [1933-1981]	9 items
Fd 11	"Rosters" [1935]	1 item
Fd 12	"Stubby Currence" [1935, 1948]	2 items
Fd 13	"Telegrams" [1938-1956]	69 items
Fd 14	"Thesis" [Robert Crabtree, 1975]	2 items
Fd 15	"Warner, Pop" [1955]	1 item
Fd 16	"Waynesburg -- Pics" [undated]	3 items
Fd 17	[West Virginia Centennial Commission]	4 items
Fd 18	"West Virginia University" [1924-195_]	9 items
Fd 19	"Point of Attack Football Check-off System"	1 item
Fd 20	"Zone Defense & Fast Break" [1955-1987]	18 items

Box 13, Oversize Materials

Severely water damaged rolled paper, possibly a diploma. Unable to unroll.
Framed letter from Edward Martin regarding the Cam Henderson Dinner
Bristol High School and college scrapbook (all photographs), 1910s
Marshall College and personal scrapbook (all photographs), 1940s
Rolled panoramic photo of Davis & Elkins Football Squad in Washington, D. C. in 1932

Box 14, Oversize Materials

Book of clippings regarding Bristol High School sports, 1910s
Photo of unidentified older woman
Marshall Basketball team photo, undated
Marshall College NAIB 1947 Champions Illustration by Irving Dugan
Bristol High School Basketball Photo, 1915
Bristol High School Basketball Photo, 1916
Bristol High School Champion Basketball Photo, 1916
Photo of soldiers or scouts, "Elo Henderson" on back
Scrapbook of clippings (bulk), telegrams, and letters from the 1940s and early 1950s, including wedding photo of Henderson
Scrapbook titled "Cam Henderson, 1890-1935, Before Marshall College: D + E, Salem, Waynesburg, Pa., Bristol", extensive photographs and clippings (bulk)
Copy of March 19, 1947 Parthenon about NAIB championship win

Additional materials found in Box 2, belonging to Series II: Roxie Bell Henderson Papers, and added to Box 2:

Folder 27	Lora Bower
Folder 28	Floyd W. Bell, 1879-1915 (love letters?)
Folder 29	Envelopes
Folder 30	Misc. letter fragments (including by Floyd Bell), journal entry, and clipping
Folder 31	Receipts
Folder 32	Letters, mostly illegible

Oversize:

4 foot by 6 foot illustration of Cam Henderson